The Lions' Pride

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What is a Provost?

Do You Know What a Provost is and How Saint Leo's Will Affect You?

Photo by TLP Newspaper

Dr. Jeffrey Senese is not new to his role as Provost, as he has held this office at Cardinal Stritch University.

A function new to Saint Leo University but not universities at large, The Office of the Provost has many functions and forms.

Saint Leo has had a Vice President Of Academic Affairs in Years Past which is now replaced with The Provost.

The Provost reports to the President and is designated as the chief academic and student affairs officer of the university.

The Provost's traditional role is to make sure that administrative and support operations run as they need to on a daily basis.

Dr. Senese has Open Office Hours on the First and Third Tuesday's of each month. There are two dates remaining, Apr. 3 and Apr. 17.

By John Hall
Layout Editor

In a memo posted by University Communications dated Dec. 20, 2017, Saint Leo announced the arrival of Dr. Jeffrey Senese as the University's first Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

The memo outlines Senese's role as, "Reporting to the president, the provost and senior vice president of Academic and Student Affairs is designated as the chief academic and student affairs officer of the university and will provide oversight of all educational programs offered on the University Campus, at centers and online. Included in the duties of the provost are the development, implementation and assurance of the quality of undergraduate and graduate programs, instruction, research and service."

A function new to Saint Leo University but not universities at large, The Office of the Provost has many functions

Continued on Page 3.

The Future is Female

By Kyshonna Bethel
Contributing Writer

So long as there is life, what it means to be female is continuously evolving. While the struggle for gender equality persists in this patriarchal society that has been planted into our existence since the conception of humanity, it is no secret that women have achieved and conquered despite the domestic box society constantly attempts to place them in. For these reasons, it is of paramount importance that we uplift our women in a world where male privilege is still at large.

Photo by Kyshonna Bethel

Amelia Boynton was a civil rights pioneer well-known for fighting for voting rights for African Americans. She died at age 104 and participated in the horrific civil march known as "Bloody Sunday."

On Thursday, Mar. 8, to commemorate Women's History Month, the School of Arts & Sciences conducted a "Celebration of Women's HERstory" in the Student Community Center Boardrooms. It is no coincidence that this event was held on the same date as International's Women's Day (in America), seeing that the open house sought to highlight and acknowledge the achievements of women across the nation. The occasion began at 10 a.m. and ended at 3p.m.

One side of the room in which the event took place was encompassed with tables that each possessed informative and interesting facts on a variety of women. The other side of the room was set up like a miniature movie theater where students could sit and enjoy the few brief presentations that took place.

There was a table of decorative poster displays, created by students which each recognized an infamous woman and her contributions to history. Next to the displays was the "Wonderful Women Writers Trading Card Activity" where there was a board of quotes and students had the opportunity to try and match a woman author with the snippet of their work from the board. The diversity was eminent in artists showcased, which included Maya Angelou, J.K. Rowling and the Bronte Sisters just to name a few; prizes were given just for participation.

Continued on Page 3.

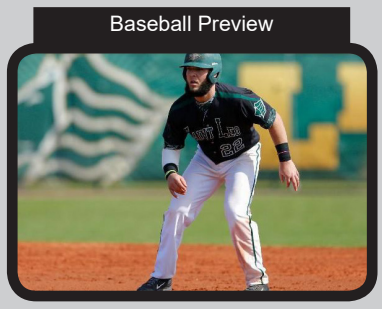
Inside This Week

Remembering Stephen Hawking

The Strangers Movie Review

Celebrity Credibility

Baseball Preview



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Saint Leo's Greek Week

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Editorial

Celebrity Opinions Should not be Discounted

Madison Whatley
Arts and Entertainment Editor

In the last month since the tragedy of gun violence afflicted Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in the always-sunny and loving community of Broward County, Florida, the public outcry has been overwhelming. Many students, parents and educators have become activists in taking to organizing and protesting on the streets, demanding changes in policy to prevent such horror from entering another classroom.

The movement has been emotional for many, so it should be no surprise that countless celebrities have weighed in on their stances on gun control, mostly in favor of it. The responses to these celebrities are usually pretty supportive. Often, fans will retweet such expressions in agreeance. However, not everyone is thrilled with the idea that influencers such as Kim Kardashian West or Britney Spears have chosen to use their platforms to express their disdain for the lack of action the government has taken.

One of the main complaints against celebrity opinions has been that those who disagree politically feel out casted and can no longer enjoy popular culture. This year's Academy Awards ceremony attracted the lowest amount of viewers ever. According to Variety, the 2018 Oscars had 19 percent less viewership than the 2017 Oscars. A slew of people on The Academy's Facebook page reported the political speeches as the reason why they chose to tune out this year.

While this may seem valid, these individuals are surely missing the point. Gun control shouldn't be treated as a partisan issue when the lives of vulnerable children are at stake. Rather than choosing ignorance and ignoring the other side, conservatives should consider sitting through the speeches as they have in years past and ask themselves what steps they can take to help bridge the gap. After all, such award shows are intended to be celebrations of art and unity and diversity, and while nobody should feel excluded from the festivities, it's more necessary to stand up against the ideologies that threaten the right to learn and create safely.

At the ceremony, several celebrities like Lin Manuel Miranda wore orange and white American flag pins created by Everytown, an organization that works for gun reform. Additionally, Common, who was nominated for Best Original Song for "Stand Up for Something," dissed the National Rifle Association (NRA) in his performance with Andra Day when he rapped, "Tell the NRA they ain't God's way and tell the people of Parkland we say àse (produce change)."

The other major complaint from those who are against gun control is that celebrities are not qualified to speak on politics and do not understand the everyday lives of average Americans well enough to speak on issues. In response to the Oscars' dropped viewership, Donald Trump tweeted, "Lowest rated Oscars in HISTORY. Problem is, we don't have Stars anymore - except your President (just kidding, of course)!" In contrast to Trump, these celebrities are not asserting themselves as politicians or presuming to have any qualifications. Regardless of celebrity status, these people are still Americans who have just as much of a right to express their concerns as people from any other line of work because gun violence hurts everyone. With politicians seemingly asleep at the wheel as far as handling gun violence, it only makes sense that those with the most resources and the most popular platforms step in as the role models in society. It doesn't hurt to use star power for a good cause, and anyway, no one's asking for Hollywood elite to take over Washington: they're just asking for the so-called qualified politicians to do their jobs.

Photo from @kimkardashian

Kim Kardashian West tweeted in the hour after the Parkland shooting urging Congress to act. Her tweets about gun control go back to 2015, yet people still fail to see her as more than a reality star.

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Photo from @chrissyteigan

Chrissy Teigen and her husband John Legend have donated over $25,000 to students organizing in the wake of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting.

Campus News

What is a Provost? Cont'd

Continued from Page 1

and forms throughout tertiary institutions. Some functions date back to the late 18th century where the Provost was considered the head of the institution. Now, the functions of these individuals are closely tied to educational affairs and activities.

According to The Evolllution's article, "On Being a Provost," "Provosts, or Academic Vice Presidents, sit at the epicenter or crossroads of the academic decision-making environment. The most important academic initiatives-concerning students, faculty, shared governance, the distribution of resources, how the institution will engage its multiple constituencies-will fail or succeed depending upon the commitment, effectiveness and ability of the provost."

In years past, Saint Leo has only had a position titled the vice president of Academic Affairs which has now been supplanted by the Provost position. Both titles while indicating roles that are similar have distinct differences, outlined in an article published in the Chronicle for Higher Education dated Aug. 2, 2007.

The article outlines the VPAA'S role, "The traditional role of a vice president for academic affairs is to promote and maintain a distinctive academic vision. That means

Photo by Saint Leo University

Senese is eager to meet with faculty and students alike, and has allowed students to sit with him for ten minutes to ask

leading the intellectual community on the campus, playing the role of visionary, and, when necessary, defending lofty principles. The vice president's central responsibility is to make sure the institution clarifies and stays true to its mission."

The article continues and states, "By contrast, the provost's traditional role is to make sure that administrative and support operations run as they need to on a daily basis. The provost monitors those processes, resolves personnel matters, balances budgets, arbitrates demands for facilities and oversees the marketing of business operations (such as revenue-generating performing-arts and sports events)."

What this means for Saint Leo is a dedicated member of the administration that will oversee faculty, advocating on their behalf, amongst a myriad of duties related to academic affairs. This is a distinct change in the organizational chart, as both the V.P. of Academic Affairs and V.P. of Student Affairs reported to the president of the University. Senese will ensure that the quality of each discipline is par none while finding ways to expand each area through dialogue with faculty members and students alike. To date, many staff members and students have taken the opportunity to speak with him in combined forums, as well as one-on-one meetings.

In the past, Senese did not shy away from sharing his ideas on developing universities, according to the University of St. Thomas-Houston school's newspaper (UST Underground), who covered a speech at their university. Senese spoke about student and faculty engagement, curriculum advancements, student's newspapers, increasing revenue and enrollment aside from tuition revenue and transgender issues.

Dr. Senese is no stranger to the Provost chair as he transitions from the role of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, WI. The memo also outlined a myriad of positions that Senese has held over the years, all yielding positive results in the areas which he has had responsibility for.

Female Cont'd

Continued from Page 1

Next on the list of activities was the "We Can Do It" display, where students could mimic the famous poster of the same name by creating a unique button with a symbol of their liking and taking a picture with their creation against a "you can do it" board. The famous poster, that was actually not as popular during its time, came about when women were encouraged to take factory jobs in place of the men who were sent to fight in World War II. When the war ended, however, many females were forced to give up their jobs for the returning soldiers. Sadly, once upon a time, female talent was seen as disposable.

Nevertheless, this celebration was all about awareness of the brilliance of women and expounded only on the positivity of women's history.

There was a table with information on the Data+Women Tampa Bay Chapter and a "Beauty, Brains and Bravery Banquet Display," which was a literal, long, banquet-arranged table of artwork done by the students of the Curves Ahead: Women Artists & the Female Form class. The idea was inspired by talented artist Judy Chicago's seminal art installation "The Dinner Party" and exhibited drawings for placemats that honored female artists of the 1960s. Artists such as Faith Ringold, Yoko Ono and Ama Ata Aidoo were beautifully and creatively represented in the banquet masterpiece.

Adjacent to the banquet was a "Reading HERstory" arrangement where women authors and their novels were featured. This table showcased a number of books including "Incidents of a Slave Girl" by Harriet Jacobs and "Click: When We Knew We Were Feminists" by Courtney E. Martin and J. Courtney Sullivan.

Lastly, but most certainly not the least, for informative table presentations was the Green Dot table. Here, there were a few quotes students could read and subsequently guess the female artist it was quoted by. Students also had the option to write down their own quote or another well-known one and stick it on the board. Green Dot's goal is to eradicate or reduce violence detected on university campuses; this includes instances of date rape and other unfortunate incidences where female students are targeted.

The special brief presentations included a TABS performance at 10 a.m., a talk about Rethink Energy Tampa Bay with Outreach Coordinator Kyrsteen Webster at noon and an intermittent Multi-Media 60s presentation. Additionally, at 12:30 p.m., freshman and psychology major Savannah Red gave a visual demonstration on Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman cosmonaut (a person certified in Russia to work in space) and the first woman in history to travel to space.

Finally, Elizabeth Brooks, our librarian, did an original poetry reading at 1 p.m. She stated that she was a writer for the Indiana Voice Journals which is one of the top 100 online literary journals in the country. Some of her pieces that she read included "Daughter of Our City," "I Want You Gone" and "You May Applaud Now."

The future certainly is female. Women's history has definitely proven female capabilities, and after years of female oppression, there is undoubtedly so much more to come. Saint Leo's celebration of women was a success, but we can all continue the celebration by letting our inner feminists loose and supporting our women.

Banging Out the Blues

By Rachel Flaherty
Special to the Lions' Pride

On March 7, some lucky Saint Leo lions had the thrilling opportunity to partake in the adventure that is The Blue Man group in Orlando at Universal Studios.

At first glance, the performance seemed to be just like any other regular concert. But once students got a look at the three men covered head to toe in blue paint, playing instruments that weren't quite instruments, and found themselves getting plucked out of the crowd just to be hung upside down, painted, then used as a giant human-sized stamp, they realized it was anything but regular.

"I like the energy and how unique the show is. I haven't seen anything like it!," exclaimed Bridget Bosca, freshman criminal justice major.

Right from the start, the audience was introduced to the kind of comedic, interactive behavior that this crazy blue bunch offers. Seats quickly filled as audience members began to take notice of the red animated sign displayed just above the stage. Not only is this random technological writing informative, but also quite amusing. Soon enough, students were in stitches as they compliantly congratulated one audience member for a birthday or another special achievement, and then playfully laughed at another's expense.

"Usually at a concert, it's the stage and a band, then the audience," explained Christian Silva, first-year student. "I wasn't expecting them to be so connected with the crowd."

"Interactive" is a phrase that one might use to describe the spectacle; some might even call it odd.

"It was very odd, but you know like one of those odds that are pretty good," stated Alexa Klein, freshman. "When I first got into it I thought, 'oh, it's like a concert.' Then when it started, I realized that it was very comedic and very entertaining. I didn't know what the heck was going on."

For The Full Article Visit us online at lionspridoeonline.com

Photo from @bluemangroup

The group blends music, lights, and physical comedy to create an unforgettable performance.

Powerful women of the past helped to shape and inspire the ladies of today.

National

Across the Universe: The Life of Stephen Hawking

Emily Kochanski
Campus News Editor

On March 14, the stars themselves seemed to dim as the world reeled from the tragic news that Stephen Hawking, renowned physicist, author and one of the most brilliant minds of the modern age, had died at the age of 76.

Hawking's interest in theoretical physics began in 1959 when he commenced his university education at Oxford at the age of 17. During his three years there, Hawking resembled someone far different from the acclaimed scientist the world knows today. His study habits were unimpressive, and he took up the mantle of a typical, rambunctious college boy. However, he was able to obtain a first-class BA in natural science before continuing his education at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

During his studies at Cambridge, Hawking was diagnosed with a slow progressing motor neuron disease, also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's disease, at the age of 21. At the initial time, however, this diagnosis did not impede him from completing his studies with a Ph.D. in applied mathematics and theoretical physics with a specialization in general relativity and cosmology.

Over the years, the disease cost him the use of both his body and his voice; movement was limited to just one hand which would ultimately play a key role in his communication. It wasn't until 1986 that he received a computer program called the "Equalizer" that would enable him to speak flicking a switch that would allow him to choose from nearly 3,000 words or phrases. By 2005, Hawking lost the use of his hand and began to control his speaking device via the movements of his cheek muscles.

Prior to his diagnosis, Hawking began a romantic relationship with Jane Wilde. The two became engaged in 1964 which, as Hawking explained, "gave him something to live for." Their marriage wasn't without its complications; Hawking's rapidly deteriorating health put most of the home and familial responsibilities on Wilde, giving Hawking more freedom to focus on his physics.

In the 1970s, Hawking collaborated alongside Roger Penrose on gravitational singularity theorems. His studies of the properties of black holes led to a major breakthrough in the realm of physics. He began to apply quantum theory, the laws of subatomic reality, to black holes. In doing so, Hawking discovered that black holes could indeed shrink, emitting both radiation and particles as they do so, and disappear over time. This discovery was coined "Hawking radiation," and was detailed in his 1974 thesis "Black Hole Explosions?" The thesis was deemed one of the first great strides in the journey to finding a single theory of nature.

Soon after his successful research into black holes, Hawking began looking into the creation of the universe, questioning both the infamous "big bang theory" and the existence of God. Hawking postulated that there was no boundary to the universe, meaning that it had neither a beginning or an end. Hawking asserted that "If the universe has no boundaries but is self-contained... then God would not have had any freedom to choose how the universe began." This was later detailed in his book "A Brief History of Time," which was published in April 1988 and sold an estimated 9 million copies. A biopic film of the same name, directed by Errol Morris and produced by Steven Spielberg, was released in 1992.

Photo from @MeredithFrost

In hopes of fulfilling a lifelong desire to travel into space, Hawking prepped for such a journey by taking a zero-gravity flight in a scientifically modified Boeing 727.

After years of marital difficulties, Hawking and Wilde divorced in 1995. Years later, Wilde published a memoir detailing their marriage and its breakdown. Though it caused a media uproar, Hawking refused to comment on the matter. Years later, Hawking reconnected with his family which spurred Wilde to produce a second book in 2007 called "Traveling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen." This happier memoir was later adapted into the 2014 film "The Theory of Everything," which starred Eddie Redmayne in the role of Hawking.

Throughout the 90s and early 2000s, Hawking expanded his public profile while continuing his research and writings, all in an effort to bring science to a wider audience. He continued to travel the world, making frequent trips to the U.S. and other more exotic locals like Chile, South Africa and Spain. In 2002, Hawking made the list of the BBC's Top 100 Britons in addition to receiving numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. He made several cameo appearances in popular television series, published a series of children's book with his daughter, Lucy, geared toward explaining theoretical physics to a new generation and became a shining role model for disabled people around the world. In 2017, Hawking was awarded an honorary doctorate from Imperial College London.

Stephen Hawking died peacefully in his home in Cambridge, England. On that day, the flag at Cambridge's Gonville and Caius College flew at half-mast.

Those familiar with Hawking knew him to be an atheist. In 2011, in the pilot episode of his American television series "Curiosity," Hawking stated the following:

"We are each free to believe what we want, and it is my view that the simplest explanation is there is no God. No one created the universe, and no one directs our fate. This leads me to a profound realization. There is probably no heaven, and no afterlife either. We have this one life to appreciate the grand design of the universe, and for that, I am extremely grateful."

One can only wonder what truly awaits this brilliant mind beyond death. Stephen Hawking has finally become an intangible part of the vast

Photo from @bigbangtheory

Stephen Hawking had an entertaining and humorous side. He entertained audiences of all ages with guest appearances on "The Simpsons," "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and, most notably, "The Big Bang Theory."

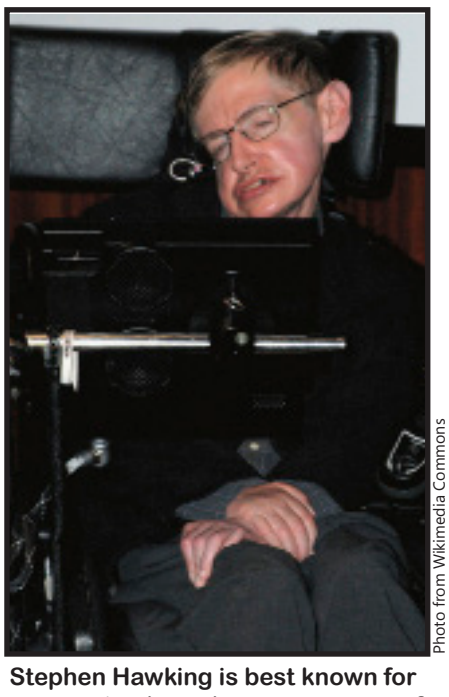
Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Stephen Hawking is best known for uncovering long dormant secrets of the cosmos.

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Arts & Entertainment

The Satisfying Sequel to "The Strangers"

By Madison Whatley
Arts and Entertainment Editor

"The Strangers: Prey at Night," sequel to the 2008 horror film "The Strangers," was released on March 9. The series is known for its masked killers, the Strangers, who are seemingly everywhere at once, constantly sneaking up on their innocent victims. The motives for these psychopaths are presumably nonexistent. In response to the classic horror film question, "Why are you doing this?" one of the masked killers answered in the first film "Because you were home." In the second film, the explanation given was simply "Why not?"

The senselessness of the murders as a theme in horror movies is ultimately very effective. Anyone can be a victim, so it has the effect of true horror. What the second film did differently from the first that makes the film much more engaging, but takes away some of the anxiety, was set the murders inside of an off-season trailer park for vacationers surrounded by a fence in a rural area. In the original film, the victims are trapped inside of a house while they are tortured, but in this film, the cast mobilizes throughout the large property. The attack becomes a game of cat and mouse when the family scrambles to hide from the masked killers until brother-sister duo Kinsley (Bailee Madison, "Just Go With It") and Luke (Lewis Pullman, "Battle of the Sexes") decide to start fighting back to avenge their parents. Watching the two work together and look after each other adds a touching layer to the otherwise gruesome flick.

Photo by @teasertrailer

Bailee Madison as Kinsley proved to be a fierce heroine as she overcame her fears to protect her family.

The fight scene near the pool was by far the best part of the film because of the visuals. The film takes place at night in the woods just off a dirt road, so the scenery is mostly dreary except for this one scene, which makes it really stand out. It is a stunning sequence when the pool lights come on as Luke battles the ax-wielding Man in the Mask (Damien Maffei, "Closed for the Season") in an epic stand-off while "Total Eclipse of the Heart" (1983) by Bonnie Tyler played among the electric palm trees.

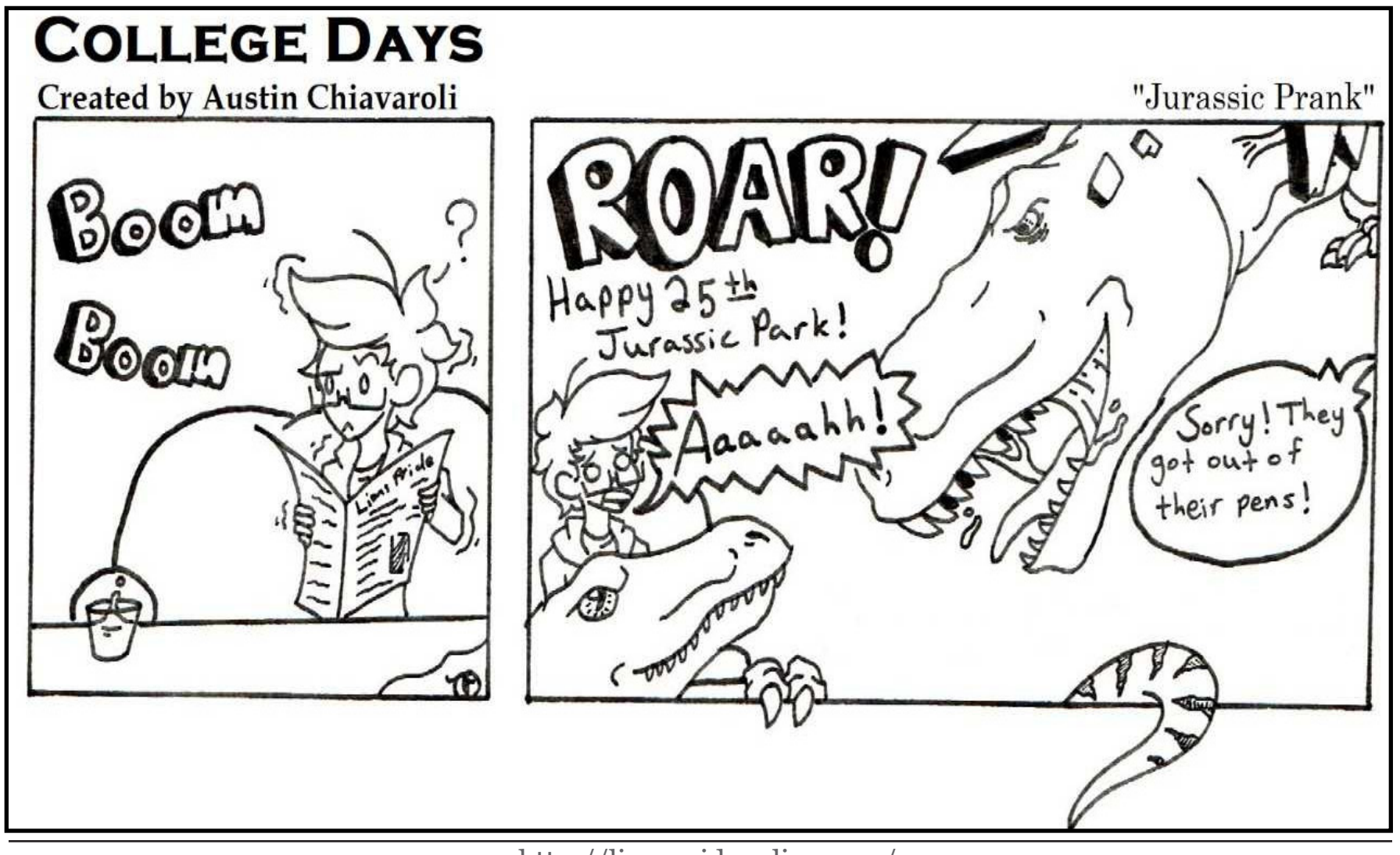
In many ways, "Prey at Night" played it just right for modern audiences in this sequel a decade after the original film that featured Liv Tyler. The soundtrack is completely composed of '80s pop songs much like 2017's most popular horror film "It" and Netflix's ever-popular science-fiction, horror show "Stranger Things." Some of the songs featured are "Kids in America" by Kim Wilde (1981), "Making Love Out of Nothing at All" by Air Supply (1983), and "I Think We're Alone Now" by Tiffany (1987).

Also similar to "It" and "Stranger Things," the kids prevail to fight the monsters in "Prey at Night." This emerging theme as the new norm in horror is exciting and well-received in the current climate of school walkouts and student-led protests. Generation Z is brave and capable, and they want to see themselves portrayed as such in media. The days of slasher flicks in which teens make asinine choices to land themselves in helpless scenarios leaving them cowering at the feet of their killers seem to be over, and the filmmakers that have not yet caught up will be in for rude awakenings at the box office.

"Prey at Night" claims to be based on true events, but in actuality, the film and its predecessor were just loosely based on the Charles Manson cult murders of the 1960s, according to horror news outlet Bloody Disgusting, so the trailer park fiasco was merely a tall tale after all.

This film is rated R, but it isn't too gory and there's little sexuality, so any viewer over the age of 13 should be able to enjoy it.

Movie Rating:
4 out of 5 Paws



Arts & Entertainment

Pressing out the Wrinkles in "A Wrinkle in Time"

By John Hall
Layout Editor

Pervading the silver screen in a myriad of colors and sights in the portrayal of the latest book adaptation is "A Wrinkle in Time." The film has a star-studded cast supplanted with household names such as Oprah Winfrey (Ms. Which), Chris Pine, Reese Witherspoon (Ms. Whatsit), Mindy Kaling (Ms. Who), Michael Pena (Red) and Zach Galifianakis (The Happy Medium) to name a few.

Although these big names play an integral role in the adaptation, they are secondary to their younger counterparts Storm Reid ("12 Years a Slave": Emily), Levi Miller ("Peter Pan" 2015: Pan) and Deric McCabe ("Hold On": Paul Duran).

These actors, while young and mostly inexperienced, bring the movie to a place of nostalgia. Several periods throughout the tenure of the second and third act, the scenes become reminiscent of the 90s Disney Channel movies, like "Hocus Pocus" and "Zathura."

The film's plot centers itself around 13-year-old Meg Murry (Reid), who is trying to adjust to school and life following the disappearance of her father and astrophysicist Alex Murray (Pine). She is compounded with the same adjustments any high school student might have to face coupled with an awkwardly silent home environment with her mother, Kate Murray (Gugu Mbatha-Raw - "Black Mirror") and adopted brother and prodigy Charles Wallace (McCabe).

The brother and sister duo are joined by Meg's classmate Calvin (Miller) who embark on a journey of discovery, self-reflection and excitement. This is one of the most debatable components of this movie as the themes presented are layered lightly under a film of defamiliarization that capitulates through the dialogue. This literary method takes the elements of everyday life and masks them in ways that are strange and uncommon. In doing so, it revitalizes what it covers, making it seem new and fresh.

The components that have caused strife and contention between the director Ava DuVernay ("Selma") and movie critics is the secularization of the film as it strayed from the source material. The original book was a science fantasy novel written by Madeleine L'Engle in 1962. L'Engle's original novel won several awards including the Newberry Medal, Sequoyah Book Award and Lewis Carroll Shelf Award.

The novel stuck closer to religious components that gave it cohesion and firmer ground with its audiences then and now. The lack of this has given critics and audiences several points of contention with the movie, albeit this is the second film adaptation, the first coming alive in 2003 direct to T.V.

Despite the reception related to the plot, the movie is visually stunning as the effects team manipulated every scene on screen with hues and saturation of every color on the spectrum. Although much of the special effects are not all new and groundbreaking, what audiences are entreated to is a journey that envelopes at every turn.

Coupled with the visual effects is Disney's anticipated soundtrack that includes a titillating score composed by German composer Ramin Djawadi, who is previously known for his work in "Iron Man," "Pacific Rim" and "Game of Thrones". The soundtrack collaborates with artists like Sade, Kehlani, Sia, Demi Lovato and DJ Khaled, who each give every scene a pathos-like connection. In tandem with the cinematography, each scene either liberates or adds a layer of heaviness to viewers.

The older actors give great performances, while the younger ones give it their all during each act; however, none of the performances were as breathtaking as the young Charles Wallace portrayed by Deric McCabe. McCabe's character alone causes him to shine above the rest. The young prodigy always articulates his language in a way that makes him seem wiser than his years, while still managing to evade a sense of arrogance.

Charles Wallace is allowed to have the most range of emotions as he is child-like in his view of the future but grounded in ways of the world. In retrospect, McCabe gives a lot of the scenes of the movie meaning because of his versatility and commitment to the role. Reid's portrayal of Meg Murray is suitable as her character is less dynamic while still being the most tortured of all by the loss of her father.

Meg's message, however, is different from others, as audiences see the insecurities of her character that juxtapose similar fears experienced by adults. Meg's character shows viewers that there are parts of every individual that cannot be hidden, yet there is an innate silent voice of hope that no one will notice them.

Photo by @girlscouts

Storm Reid's character continues to show the shift from what was once a polarized theme of male heroes to intelligent and strong female leads.

It seems apparent that the director and writer of the novel intended for there to be increased dialogue in the wake of what is presented in the material. However, this adaptation doesn't connect with that veracity given a portion of audiences' reception. Movie aggregate Rotten Tomatoes have given the film a critic score of 40 percent while the audience score sits a scathing 34 percent as of March 16, 2018, one week after release.

As a stand-alone film, without any exposure to the source material, as something that is not disposable but needs a chance to prove itself. The adaptation deserves a chance to explain why it is deserving of viewers' attention. One method the director could have taken to achieve this could have been to take away some of the visual effects to give more depth to each character arc.

DuVernay's vision of the film is seen in the young Storm Reid because she highlights a young African-American heroine from mixed parentage who is troubled yet intelligent, understanding and courageous. What the film lacks is the establishment of the strength of Storm's character which could have been brought out by spending more time with Meg gaining the strength to stand in the absence of her father.

Often films of this nature focus on buy-in from audiences who manipulatively complain about their need to be pleased visually and not be bogged down by scenes that require a lot of mental energy.

"A Wrinkle in Time" is not a new story by any means but gives much credence to contemporary themes present today as the world continues to look toward the heroic potential of all people. In tandem, the film explores science in ways that pay homage to many theories at play in film and the applied sciences today. An example of this comes from the late Stephen Hawking postulated several theories regarding The Big Bang and creation, the influence is recognizable and plays well into the plot of the film.

Despite being berated by critics and the low audience reception, "A Wrinkle in Time" has a great deal to offer and is worth the time and money to watch with children and with childlike anticipation.

Movie Rating:
3 out of 5 Paws

Upcoming Events

Jelly Bean Fling

Date: Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Location: Pioneer Florida Museum & Village, 15602 Pioneer Museum Road, Dade City

Description: Easter Egg Hunt, Bounce House & Slide*, Petting Zoo, Face Painting, Kids Raffle and more.

Cost: $5 armband for unlimited activities.

Sports

Major League Baseball Preview

By Collin Moran
Online Sports Editor

After a long and fairly uneventful offseason, opening day is right around the corner, and it's time to watch some major league baseball. No matter who your favorite team may be, it is an exciting time of year for fans of the sport, as every ball-club gets to start fresh and have a chance at making it to the World Series all the way in October.

This year, opening day is scheduled for March 29, which is the earliest it has ever been in the history of the MLB to help teams gain a handful of extra off-days throughout the regular season. It may seem a bit odd to be watching baseball before April, but I bet it would be hard to find any baseball fan who is complaining about the date. On opening day we will see all 30 major league teams in action with games ranging from 12:30 p.m. until 10:10 p.m.

It should be a great season with some big names having moved clubs and following one of the most exciting World Series in the history of baseball.

American League

In what usually tends to be the more exciting of the two, the American League figures to feature a lot of exciting teams coming into 2018. Last year's world champions, the Houston Astros, figure to be the face of the league after a great season and a winter where they acquired another strong arm in Gerrit Cole. It will be tough to beat out the Astros this season, but teams like the Cleveland Indians, the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox figure to all be elite and make another run at the postseason.

Cleveland was upset by New York in the divisional series of last year's playoffs, after earning an American League-high of 102 wins in 2017 but figures to compete for a World Series title again this season. The Indians feature one of the best rotations in the entire league, anchored by Cy-Young award winner Corey Kluber, and a powerful lineup that includes veterans like Edwin Encarnacion and young stars like Francisco Lindor.

The Yankees and Red Sox should also be in a heated battle all summer to determine who is going to win the American League East Division. Both teams have added big power since last year, with National League MVP Giancarlo Stanton getting traded to New York and J.D. Martinez who hit 45 home runs last year getting signed by Boston in the offseason. In 2017 the teams finished within two wins of each other, with the Red Sox winning the division, but this season it looks as if the Yankees are making a serious case for being the best team in the east, let alone the entire American League.

Other teams who have a shot at grabbing the last wild card spot or beating out one of the previously mentioned ball-clubs are the Los Angeles Angels, Minnesota Twins and Baltimore Orioles. The Angels and Orioles feature the best lineups of the three, but Minnesota has easily the best starting rotation with the additions of Jake Odorizzi and Lance Lynn over the winter.

National League

The National League figures to have some pretty good competition heading into the 2018 season, with a lot of the action happening on the West Coast. The NL West Division alone features four teams that could compete for playoff spots

The Los Angeles Dodgers finished with a league-high of 104 wins last year and are bringing back the same dominant team from last season. Headlined by elite pitcher Clayton Kershaw, the Dodgers are looking for redemption after their World Series loss. The Colorado Rockies and the Arizona Diamondbacks also feature strong rosters that will look to repeat on their

Photos courtesy of: @yahoofinanc

The Houston Astros will look to return to the World Series for a second straight year.

87 and 93 win seasons from a year ago. Finally, the San Francisco Giants, who, after years of ruling the division, fell back to Earth last season (64 wins) adding two big-time veterans, Evan Longoria and Andrew McCutchen, in hopes of returning to the playoffs.

The National League East features a handful of young teams who aren't quite ready to compete just yet but are led by the Washington Nationals who have been one of the best teams in baseball over the last five years. The Nationals are led by Cy-Young award winner Max Scherzer and elite outfielder Bryce Harper. The New York Mets could also make a push for the playoffs if their rotation stays healthy, but it might be tough for them to beat out the teams from the west.

Finally, the Central Division features the elite Chicago Cubs who, with the addition of Yu Darvish, figure to win the division and make a run at their second World Series in three years. They will compete with the always solid St. Louis Cardinals, and the Milwaukee Brewers who won 86 games last season. It doesn't seem like the Brewers, or the Cardinals have enough firepower to beat out the Cubs for the division title but could make a run at the wild card spots.

Photos courtesy of: @OvacionVE

Carlos Gonzalez and the Rockies will look to improve upon last year's already impressive 87 win season.

Upcoming Games Week Ending 3/23/18 - 3/29/18

Women's Golf
3/24- @ Stetson Babs Steffens Invitational
3/25- @ Stetson Babs Steffens Invitational
3/26- @ Stetson Babs Steffens Invitational

Track
3/23- @ USF 4:00 p.m.
3/24- @ Ole Miss (Oxford, Miss.) 3:00 p.m.
3/25- @ Ole Miss (Oxford, Miss.) 3:00 p.m.
3/29- @ University of Florida 4:00 p.m.

Men's Baseball
3/27- vs Wis.-Parkside (DH) 3:00 p.m./ 6:00 p.m.
3/28- vs Wis.-Parkside 1:00 p.m.
3/29- @ Palm Beach Atlantic 6:00 p.m.

Women's Softball
3/23-vs Lynn 7:00 p.m.
3/24- vs Lynn (DH) 1:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.
3/28- vs Florida Southeastern 7:00 p.m.
3/29- vs Florida Southern 5:00 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse
3/29- @ Palm Beach Atlantic 7:00 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse
3/24- @ Young Harris 11:00 a.m.
3/25- @ Wingate 1:00 p.m.
3/29- @ Embry-Riddle 7:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis
3/24- vs #2 Barry 11:00 a.m.
3/27- @ Florida Tech 1:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis
3/28- vs #6 Academy of Art 3:00 p.m.